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PAGE ONE CONT.

FRENCH VICTORS IN FAST FIGHT

Germans Beaten By Vicious
Bayonet Attack Along a
Twelve Mile Front

ARTILLERY OPENS THE WAY

In Thirty Minutes Teutons Are
Prisoners and Trenches Are
Occupied By Enemy.

Arras, France, Dec. 29.—That portion of the French army, which is holding lines near Arras today attacked the Germans on a front twelve miles long. They carried half a mile of the German trenches near Lens by assault and tonight are holding these positions in force.

The way for this attack was prepared by violent artillery and machine gun fire which swept the German positions from a point to the north of Lens to the south of Arras. German batteries everywhere replied heavily.

While the Germans were thus engaged along the entire line on this part of their defense works the French fire opposite Lens suddenly ceased. Instantly French infantrymen leaped from their trenches and charged the German positions which were from 100 to 200 yards distant. A brief and furious bayonet encounter brought victory to the French. The Germans were routed. The French took some prisoners and occupied the German positions. It was all over in thirty minutes.

Paris, Dec. 29.—Today's official communication says: "In Belgium the village of St. George has been occupied by our troops who have established themselves in the location."

"From the Lys to the Somme the enemy has abandoned our positions rather violently in the vicinity of Heille at St. Aubin, at Lequesnoy and at Pouchelle, northwest of Roye."

"We have gained little ground in the Argonne, notably in the forest of La Grange. In the forest of Boland and in the forest of Courtois-Chamerey."

"On the heights of the Meuse several German attacks have been repulsed in the forest of Le Bouchoir, northeast of Troyon."

"The forces of the enemy which had occupied our trenches in the vicinity of the redoubt in the forest of La Grange, in the forest of Boland and in the forest of Courtois-Chamerey, have been driven out after three successive counterattacks."

"In the upper Alsace following a violent engagement we are today closely investing Steinbach and our forces have taken possession of the ruins of the Chateau which is located north west of this village."

London, Dec. 29.—It has been officially announced that fifty four British foreign going ships valued at \$11,400,000 with cargo worth \$18,800,000 have been destroyed by the enemy in the first four months of the war.

Berlin, Dec. 29.—An official statement today says: "In the western arena of war we gained some ground after relatively unimportant engagements near Neuport and to the southeast of Ypres."

"Several strong French attacks northwest of St. Menesboul have been repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. We captured 200 prisoners."

"An advance in the burned forest west of Apremont, led to the capture by us of one French fortified trench and three machine guns. French attacks west of Senheim have been repulsed."

"No changes have taken place in the situation in east Prussia."

"In Poland on the right bank of the Vistula, on a branch of the Bzura and on the Bzura rivers our attacks have been progressing. In the region south of Inowolka strong Russian attacks have been repulsed."

**GREAT MORTGAGE ISSUED
BY EASTERN RAILROAD**

Toledo, Dec. 29.—A mortgage of \$100,000,000 to secure two issues of Lake Shore and Michigan Southern railway company gold bonds of 1903 and in 1906 has been recorded in this county. Each of the issues is secured in the sum of \$50,000,000.

The mortgages are the Central Trust company of New York and Frank L. Littleton, trustees.

**CARMALT APPOINTED CHIEF
EXAMINER OF COMMISSION**

Washington, Dec. 29.—James W. Carmalt has been appointed chief examiner of the interstate commerce commission to succeed Ross D. Ryndor resigned. Mr. Carmalt, recently was confidential examiner attached to the staff of Chairman Harlan.

**CEMENT FREIGHT RATE
ADVANCE IS SUSTAINED.**

Washington, Dec. 29.—Advances of approximately two cents a hundred pounds in freight rates on cement from all principal cement producing points west of the Mississippi river in trunk line territory, were sustained in part by interstate commerce commission today.

**WILSON CONFIRMS DEMAND
FOR PRISONER'S AMNESTY**

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Wilson has confirmed statements that the United States had advised the Guatemalan government in Mexico to grant amnesty to political prisoners.

NATIONAL PROHIBITION DANGEROUS SAYS TAFT

Boston, Dec. 29.—National prohibition is a dangerous proposition, said former President William H. Taft, speaking before the Bar Association of Boston at its 17th annual banquet last night.

"It would revolutionize the national government," he said. "It would put on the shoulders of the government the duty of sweeping the doorsteps of every home in the land. If national prohibition legislation is passed local government would be destroyed. And if you destroy local government you destroy one of the things which go to make for a healthy condition of the national government."

"National prohibition is non-enforceable. It is a confession on the part of the state governments of inability to control and regulate their own special business and duty. If the matter were placed under federal control it would result in creation of a machinery of government officials large enough to nominate any president and would offer too great an opportunity to persons seeking to perpetuate their power in Washington."

CLOSING PROVED EXCHANGE VALUE

Yale Educator Talks on Stock
Market Emergency Measure
—Importance Recognized

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 29.—The closing of the stock exchanges as an emergency measure during the first few months of the war proved their great value, according to Prof. Henry Emery of Yale whose paper was a feature of the discussion at the morning session of the American Economic Association today on speculation in the stock exchanges and public regulation of the exchange.

Speaking of the elaborate attempt made in Germany to regulate stock speculation, he pointed out that not only had the government repealed the act after ten years' experience, but that in doing so it had distinctly stated that the restrictive measures of that act had the effect of intensifying evils aimed at, not diminishing them.

The important and necessary function of free speculation market said Mr. Emery, had come to be generally recognized by economists. A new fallacy, however had crept in. This was in confusing speculation with the stock exchange organization. If the function of speculation were to help direct the course of investment, it did not follow that it was the function of the governors of the stock exchange to direct the public by advice or "reports." On the contrary, the function of the governors was to provide an open market where business would be facilitated and strict honesty enforced.

He referred to the recent closing of the exchanges. Necessary as such closing was, as an emergency measure, it had proved that, without an open market the investor did not know the value of his property, the banks were uncertain as to all collateral offered them and as their own liquid assets, that the credit system was disarranged, and the normal industrial expansion was hampered in many ways.

FREIGHT RATE RISE WORRIES ENGLISH PAPERS

London, Dec. 29.—The resumption of the freight markets after the Christmas recess shows another extraordinary rise in rates especially from Egypt and the river Plate as well as from north and south America. The Morning Post thinks the situation is becoming so serious in its effect on the price of foodstuffs that the government will be obliged to intervene with the object of preventing a still further rise. The newspaper says such intervention is being freely discussed in shipping circles.

OLIVER GIVEN HARRISON'S JOB

Resignation of Secretary of State Is
Accepted and Office Employee Is
Appointed.

Secretary of State Ben F. Harrison tendered his resignation today to become effective January 1. H. G. Oliver, who since the resignation of Hugh Harrell, has been assistant secretary of state, was appointed by Governor Crook to fill out the unexpired term of Secretary Harrison. This will extend from January 1 to January 11, when the incoming state officers take their places.

Secretary Harrison was elected to the legislature and that body will meet on January 5, which would be a week before Mr. Harrison's term of office would expire, but under the laws of the state he cannot hold two offices at the same time. He is also candidate for speaker of the house and has opened headquarters at the Lee-Huckins hotel.

The appointment of Mr. Oliver as his successor was made at the request of Secretary Harrison. Mr. Oliver was an active supporter of Governor-elect Williams and his appointment as assistant secretary was in recognition of his services in the local Williams club.



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COUNTERFEITS IN CELL
Jefferson City, Dec. 29.—A counterfeit plant with moulds and a supply of counterfeit money was found in the state prison today, in the cell of William Brandon, serving a five-year term for forgery. Thirty half dollar coins were passed among the convicts on Christmas holiday, when the prisoners were given the freedom of the yards. Seven coins were found on Brandon, when his cell was searched.

ALL CANDIDATES FAVOR WILLIAMS

None of the Would-Be Speakers
Announce Opposition to
Governor-Elect.

The battle lines were rapidly forming Tuesday in the house organization fight which will be waged until the legislature convenes one week from today. Four candidates for speaker have now opened permanent headquarters in the city and the others are expected here before the end of the week.

A. McCrory of Ringling and Wash. Hudson of Tulsa both opened permanent headquarters here today. McCrory has rooms 315-17 at the Lee-Huckins hotel, the apartments formerly occupied by C. N. Haskell when governor of the state. Hudson is at the Skirvin. E. E. Glasco and Ben Harrison also have established themselves at the Lee-Huckins. Tom Hunter, who is spending the holidays at home, will return within a few days and open permanent headquarters for the contest.

No Opposition.
No fight has yet developed on the administration. All of the candidates apparently are favorable to Governor-elect Williams, at least none of them has expressed open opposition to his policies. McCrory, however, lays the strongest emphasis upon the necessity of working with the governor. He is also a close personal friend of Judge Williams and expresses explicit confidence in his integrity and his desire and ability to do right while governor. It is said that Governor-elect Williams will not permit his enemies to organize the legislature and if such an attempt is made he will personally get into the fight. Thus far, however, nothing has developed to indicate that there is any organized movement on the part of the anti-Williams men to control the legislature.

Legislators Concur.
Members of the legislature are beginning to drift into the capital. Among the house members who arrived today were: Paul Nesbitt of McAlester; Luther Harrison of Seminole county; Sam Harris of Ada; W. T. Powell of Temple. Henry W. Ritten of Stephens county. Among members of the senate who are here are Senator Clarence Davis, Senator Ben Franklin and Senator C. C. Shaw. All of whom have taken up their residence in the city for the session.

Periodic Examination of Brain Worker's Body to Determine If Proper Food Is Being Eaten

Philadelphia, Dec. 29.—The importance of a periodic examination of the individual to determine whether there has been developed a change in his relation to his food, which he said, is the great danger that particularly threatens the brain worker was urged by Dr. Louis Fagundes Bishop of Fordham university, in an address to-day before the social and economic science section of the American section for the advancement of science. "The life of a brainworker," Mr. Bishop said, "should consist of 40 years of preparation and 40 years of fruitful labor, but many leaders in thought are found giving out in the fifties, nearly all of the remainder in the sixties with only a few enjoying active work in the seventies."

Greater Profits Go to Farmers and Cheaper Living for Public If Crops Are Well Distributed

Princeton, N. J., December 29.—Coordination in distributing commodities will do much toward reducing the cost of living and bring greater profits to the farmer, Dr. Royal Meeker, United States commissioner on labor statistics told the members of the American Economic Association in convention here today.

While Mr. Meeker admitted that farmers doubtless had lost money through dealing with unscrupulous marketmen many losses were attributable to failure to acquaint themselves with market conditions before shipping.

"The great majority of cases in which farmers have shipped produce to commission merchants and have received little or nothing in return are not cases of dishonesty at all," he said. "In most instances the loss is due to ignorance of market conditions, bad packing, bad selection and grading, or poor transportation arrangements."

THE WEATHER

Fair Weather To-night and Wednesday; somewhat colder tonight.
7 a. m. 32
8 a. m. 31
9 a. m. 31
10 a. m. 31
11 a. m. 31
12 noon 31
1 p. m. 31
2 p. m. 31
3 p. m. 31
The southwestern storm has moved rapidly northward and is central over St. Louis this morning. It has increased greatly in intensity and has caused general precipitation in the southern Plains State, Mississippi Valley, Gulf and eastern districts, with rain or snow continuing over practically all of the territory east of the Mississippi River. The rainfall has been heavy in the lower Mississippi valley. Snow flurries occurred in the northern Rocky Mountains yesterday but fair weather prevails this morning over the western half of the country. Temperatures are above normal in the Mississippi valley, Gulf and eastern districts are close to the seasonal average in the Plains States and westward to the Pacific.

PASTOR OUT OF PRISON WHERE GIRL SENT HIM

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 29.—The Rev. George D. Huggins, seventy years old, who always insisted that he never had harmed Viola Galt, fourteen years old, but who was serving from five to thirty years for the crime, was released from prison today by the board of pardons. He was weeping as he left the prison and started for his old home in Jacobstown, Burlington county, to join his aged wife.

Huggins was arrested in 1911 on a charge made by the girl. Not long before that he had taken the girl into his home, she having been sent to his family by the New Jersey Children's Home Society.

The charge caused a sensation throughout New Jersey, where Mr. Huggins had long held a good reputation and where he had been a leader in the councils of the Methodist Episcopal church. He had had several other homeless girls in his family, and as they grew older and were married or had found profitable employment they always spoke highly of their guardian.

ENGLAND MUST GIVE DAMAGES

President Wilson Says British
Will Be Compelled to Pay
For Cargoes.

ATTITUDE IS SATISFACTORY

Washington Note Creates Stir in
Diplomatic Circles; American
Public Pleased.

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Wilson, referring to the American note to Great Britain insisting on better treatment for American commerce, declared large damages eventually would have to be paid by England for unlawful detention of American cargoes.

The president pointed out that many protests had been sent in specific cases and that if the contention of the American government is correct, as he was firmly convinced it was, plans for indemnification ultimately would have to be met by Great Britain.

Position Explained.
Supplementary to previous protests, the new note, President Wilson said explained fully the American position. He said that so far as theory was concerned, there was no debate on the point raised, because England herself, in previous wars, had been in exactly the American position.

The president was asked if the note sent to Great Britain was the result of the recent gathering of Pan-American diplomats here.

No Treaty.
He said it was not, but that the position of the United States would apply to any neutral and that the contentions advanced were not peculiar to this country.

The president added the note was not based on any treaties between the United States and Great Britain, but on the generally accepted principle of international law. The publication of the substance of the American note this morning created widespread interest in the capital.

Diplomats Interested.
Foreign diplomats, especially those from neutral countries, discussed it and congressmen who had protested to the state department on behalf of merchants and shippers of copper, flour, wheat, foodstuffs, cotton and other products in which trade has been restricted, expressed their satisfaction at the attitude of the government.

Some administration officials expressed the view that when Great Britain realized the extent of public opinion on the subject in the United States, her attitude would be modified.

FOR FIREMEN'S FUND

Thirty-nine Cities of State Have Legal
Right to Participate in Benefit in
Pension Money.

Up to date thirty-nine cities and towns in the state have complied with the laws entitling injured firemen to participation in the firemen's pension fund, all of which has been certified to the office of the state commissioner of insurance. The time for which towns can enter this list ends on December 31, and it is assumed that others will come in before the limit expires. Last year forty-four cities and towns entered the list.

The list this year includes all the principal cities and towns of the state, with some of the smallest desiring to be seen in the list. The funds for the benefit of the firemen are derived from premiums on insurance policies carried in the city or town.

RIVERS APPROPRIATION BILL DISCUSSED BY SUBCOMMITTEE

Washington, Dec. 29.—The rivers and harbor appropriation bill, carrying approximately \$34,000,000 for existing projects, was the subject of informal consideration by a senate commerce subcommittee. Senator Burton, whose filibustering last session resulted in having a blanket appropriation of \$20,000,000 substituted for the house bill is opposed to many items in this year's measure.

WABASH GENERAL MANAGER RESIGNS; POSSIBLE PRESIDENT

St. Louis, Dec. 29.—Henry Miller, general manager of the Wabash railroad, has tendered his resignation effective January 1. He has been with the Wabash railroad ten years and it was understood in railroad circles that he would be made president of the road on its reorganization when the present reorganization is ended. Miller continues as vice-president and a director of the road.

FORMER TENNIS CHAMPION DIES AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS

Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 29.—Leonard Ware, New York broker and former tennis champion, died of pneumonia at his home, after a brief illness. When a undergraduate at Harvard in 1898, Mr. Ware won the national doubles championship with G. P. Sheldon, Jr. The intercollegiate doubles championship with M. D. Whitman and the intercollegiate singles championship.

A RES OF JAPANESE ARTIST SENT BY POST

Boston, Dec. 29.—The parcel post has been called upon to convey the ashes of Teijiro Hagawa, a Japanese artist to his former home near Tokyo, Japan. The package was accepted and started on its way, after \$1.10 in stamps had been attached.

FERRET CASES BEFORE COURT

Arguments Heard in Two Big
Suits—No Opinions Are
Handed Down.

Arguments were heard in the state supreme court this morning on two of the big tax ferret cases now pending before that tribunal.

One case, that of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad against George H. Hunter, treasurer of Pottawatomie county and R. C. Hurst, tax inquisitor of the same county, involves an application by the railroad for a writ of prohibition to prevent the local treasurer from placing on the tax rolls property which it is alleged escaped assessment for the years from 1908 to 1913 inclusive. The other case which was submitted on arguments at the same time and involves many similar points, is the motion for a rehearing by the Oage and Oklahoma company which was given an adverse decision of the supreme court several weeks ago in which it was held that the county treasurer and Tax Ferret C. H. Pittman had the right to assess property belonging to that company which is alleged to have escaped taxation for several years and to place the same on the tax rolls.

Whittighill Argues.
In the Santa Fe case Assistant Attorney C. E. Whittighill of Pottawatomie county presented the argument for the local tax officials contending that the railroad company had omitted property for taxation amounting from \$183,000 to \$250,000 for each of the years named. Whittighill argued a demurrer which he presented to the petition of the railway company.

He contended that the local authorities have the right to assess any property which has been omitted from the assessment of previous years and he alleged that the Santa Fe in its application for writ of prohibition did not deny the correctness of the assessment by the local authorities, but merely raised legal objections to it.

No Opinions.
Judge S. W. Hayes who presented the case for the Santa Fe contended that if the law authorizes tax ferrets and local authorities to tax property of public service corporations then the statute is contrary to Section 21, Article 10 of the constitution which gives the state board of equalization exclusive authority to assess the property of public service corporations.

It was agreed a week ago that inasmuch as practically the same points are involved in the Oage and Oklahoma and the Santa Fe cases they should be presented together to the court. No opinions were handed down by the supreme court this morning.

AMERICAN DID NOT THREATEN

Russian Cruiser Was Involved In
Tripoli Incident Says Report to War
Department.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Captain Omm, commanding the armored cruiser North Carolina, at Beirut, Syria has informed the navy department that it was a Russian cruiser and not an American vessel which recently threatened to bombard Tripoli.

BRITISH ADMIRALTY TAKES LINERS BUILT IN SCOTLAND

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 29.—Seattle officials of the Canadian Pacific Railway here have been advised that the new liners Princess Margaret and Princess Irene, which have been building at Dumbarton, Scotland for service between Seattle and Victoria and Vancouver, have been commandeered by the British admiralty.

AGED WAR VETERAN KILLS ONE BANDIT; HURTS ANOTHER

St. Louis, Dec. 29.—One bandit was killed and another shot and seriously wounded by Leonard C. Humphrey, a 70 year old veteran of the Union army when the pair attacked Leonard in his notion store here late yesterday.